

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 4th June 1887.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ASSAMESE.				
Monthly.				
1	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar	...	...
2	"Assam News"	Ditto	450	...
BENGALI.				
Monthly.				
3	"Ahammadi"	Tangail, Mymensingh..	...	...
4	"Kasipore Nibási"	Kasipore, Burrisal	...	...
Fortnightly.				
5	"Ave Maria"	Calcutta	...	...
6	"Purva Darpan"	Chittagong	700	...
7	"Silchar"	Silchar, Assam	...	...
Weekly.				
8	"Arya Darpan"	Calcutta	102	27th May 1887.
9	"Arya Pratibhá"	Halishahar	...	...
10	"Bangabási"	Calcutta	20,000	28th ditto.
11	"Bháratbási"	Ditto	3,000	21st ditto.
12	"Bhárat Mihir"	Ditto	2,500	...
13	"Burdwán Sanjivani"	Burdwan	302	24th ditto.
14	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	23rd ditto.
15	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca	450	29th ditto.
16	"Dhumaketu"	Chandernagore	...	27th ditto.
17	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	825	27th ditto.
18	"Garib and Mahavidya"	Dacca	...	26th ditto.
19	"Grambási"	Uluberia	...	29th ditto.
20	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	25th May & 1st June 1887.
21	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore	508	...
22	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto	...	...
23	"Nava Medini"	Midnapore	...	...
24	"Navavibhákar Sádharani"	Calcutta	1,000	30th May 1887.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week
BENGALI—concluded.				
<i>Weekly—concluded.</i>				
25	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	450	21st May 1887.
26	"Prajā Bandhu"	Chandernagore ...	995	27th ditto.
27	"Pratikār"	Berhampore ...	600	27th ditto.
28	"Pūrva Bangabāsī"	Noakholly ...	.....
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	205	26th ditto.
30	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	25th ditto.
31	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	2,350	27th ditto.
32	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	4,000	28th ditto.
33	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	800	
34	"Sāraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	400	
35	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs. ...	1,000	30th ditto.
36	"Śrīmanta Saudagār"	Calcutta ...	.....
37	"Sulabha Samāchār and Kusadaha"	Ditto ...	3,000	27th ditto.
38	"Surabhi and Patākā"	Ditto ...	700	26th ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
39	"Dainik"	Calcutta ...	7,000	29th to 31st May & 1st to 2nd June 1887.
40	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto ...	200	27th & 28th May 1887.
41	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	26th, 27th, 30th, & 31st May, & 1st & 2nd
42	"Samachār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	625	[June 1887.]
43	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca ...	.....	30th May 1887.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
45	"Kshatriya Pratikā"	Patna ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Aryāvarta"	Calcutta ...	.....
47	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	.....
48	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	26th ditto.
49	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto ...	500	23rd ditto.
50	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto ...	4,500	
51	"Hindi Samāchār"	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta ...	250	27th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Gauhur"	Calcutta ...	196	
54	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar ...	150	
55	"Al Punch"	Bankipore ...	.....
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
56	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta ...	340	
<i>Daily.</i>				
57	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	212	28th to 31st May & 1st & 2nd June 1887.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
58	"Taraka and Subhavartā"	Cuttack ...	.....	May 1887.
59	"Pradip"	Ditto ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
60	"Utkal Dīpikā"	Cuttack ...	200	7th ditto.
61	"Balasore Samvad Vāhika"	Balasore ...	205	5th ditto.
62	"Banskārak"	Cuttack ...	200	12th ditto.
63	"Navasamvād"	Ditto ...	.....	12th ditto.

1.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

SAHACHAR,
May 25th, 1887.

THE *Sahachar*, of the 25th May, referring to Russian designs on India, says that the English have two courses left them by which they can hope to check the progress of Russia. The first is to challenge Russia to fight a battle at some place beyond Afghanistan. The second is to remain quietly in India without taking any notice of Russian movements. The first course is clearly not open to the English, because they have not the power to go out and fight Russia openly beyond Afghanistan. The second is therefore their only course, and it is this course which they have been mainly following. They are spending immense sums of money in order to strengthen the defences of India; but what does this waste of money mean? Do the English really believe that, with their Indian army of 70,000 European troops and 130,000 native soldiers, they will be able to resist Russia if she actually crosses the North-Western frontier of India. No; they will not be able to do so, even if they double their army. But the fact is that an invasion of India by Russia is next to impossible. But should Russia ever come to India, the safety of the Indian Empire must depend on the co-operation of the native population with the English. Russia will not dare to think of entering India if she only finds the people of India devotedly engaged in defending their country against her. And if she ever abandons her designs on India, it will be not from a fear of the Anglo-Indians, but from a fear of the united peoples, and races of India. The properest course for the English to adopt would therefore seem to be to pursue a policy of conciliation towards their native subjects. By increasing the cost of the administration and making the people pay more and more taxes, they are simply courting and creating their own danger.

2. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 26th May, says that the news that there will be another sitting of the Boundary Commission next week is not at all re-assuring. It was known beforehand that nothing would come out of the Commission. From the very beginning people are being told that the time when the Commission will have done its work is coming. But that time has never come, and nobody can tell when that time will come.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 26th, 1887.

3. The *Dainik*, of the 2nd June, says that it is no wonder that Maharajah Dhuleep Singh should ask Russia for aid. But it is certain that he will fail to evoke any sympathy for him or his cause among the people of India, and Government need therefore cherish no apprehensions on that hand. But, then, who shall say that the son of Runjit, aided by Russia, will be unable to do mischief to Government or stir up the Sikhs of the Punjab in his favour? The safety of the Government will lie in its winning the heart of the native population of India.

DAINIK,
June 2nd, 1887.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

4. The following has been communicated to the *Cháruvártá*, of the 23rd May, on the subject of the proposed reduction of the number and pay of the head-constables of the Bengal Police. It will be very inexpedient to reduce

CHARUVARTA,
May 23rd, 1887.

the pay of the head-constables. The monthly expenditure of a head-constable must be somewhat as follows :—

	Rs.
Servant	4
Cook	6
6 members of family at Rs. 5 per head	30
Gram for horse	3
Syce	5
Miscellaneous expenses	5
Total	53

There are 2,300 head-constables in the Bengal Police, and the Government will fail to show that any ten out of these 2,300 men could manage to maintain his family for any sum less than Rs. 53 a month. But at the rate of Rs. 53 a month, the monthly expenses of 2,300 head-constables must be 14 lakhs of rupees a year. Government, however, gives only five lakhs a year. So it cannot but be that they raise the remaining nine lakhs by unfair means. In order to raise this nine lakhs they have to waste much time and to contrive means which greatly interferes with the performance of their public duties, and Government, by paying so inadequately, must be regarded as helping these head-constables to extort bribes from the people by oppressive means. These evils may be removed by one of two means—appointing good men in the police and increasing the pay of police officers. It will be difficult to get good men without giving them handsome remuneration. As regards increasing the pay of police officers, it is expected that bribery in the police may be checked by this means. A man does not adopt corrupt practices unless he is compelled by sheer necessity to do so. No one likes to follow an evil path if he can maintain his family by honest means. The pay of head-constables should therefore be increased. The number of police constables is not sufficiently large for the large extent of the country. Any reduction of the number of constables will therefore be inadvisable. But no measures of this kind will be productive of good if head-constables are not placed under the supervision of really competent officers.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 24th, 1887.

A man waylaid in Burdwan.

5. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 24th May, publishes a letter in which the writer reports having been waylaid by robbers near the Rani Sayar tank in Burdwan, and requests the District Magistrate to station some police near the tank for the safety of travellers.

SAHACHAR,
May 25th, 1887.

The Public Service Commission and Baboo Mohendra Nath Hazra.

6. The *Sahachar*, of the 25th May, says that, like Mr. Giles, District Superintendent of Police, Burdwan, Baboo Mohendra Nath Hazra should also have been called upon to give evidence before the Public Service Commission. The Baboo would have been looked upon as the representative of the native element in the Police Department.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
May 26th, 1887.

The Sub-Inspector of Police, Panchupore, in Rajshahye.

7. The *Rungpore Dikprakash*, of the 26th May, says that the Sub-Inspector of Police, Panchupore, went to investigate a case of theft and dacoity in the house of Baboo Gurudas Chowdhury of Bhowanipore, and mercilessly beat all the Baboo's servants. The Baboo's priest, Kinu Chakravarti, is also stated to have been beaten to death. He was also deputed to investigate a case of theft in the house of Mohabat Sirdar of Sikarpore. There, too, he beat the sirdar's servants. He could not trace the thieves, and went away after taking some bribe. The Sub-Inspector is a great favourite of the Deputy Magistrate of Nowgaon. Gopal Baboo, the Inspector of Police, also likes him. There is a rumour

that all these officers will be soon transferred. But mere transfer will not be fit punishment for such men.

8. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 27th May, complains of theft at Mankunda and Gondalpara. The people fear to call in the help of the police, lest police interference should involve them in trouble. The police is unable to detect thieves even when they are put on their track. The abolition of the police outpost in Mankunda has had the effect of increasing the number of thieves in that locality. The *barkandaz* of the local police hardly does his duty; he is even believed not to go out on rounds. Will Government look to these things?

PRAJA BANDHU,
May 27th, 1887.

9. The *Samaya*, of the 27th May, says that wine sold is in almost all grog-shops in Calcutta throughout the night, in violation of the law requiring grog-shops to be closed after 9 p. m. The grog-shops are indeed closed at the appointed time, but the sale of wine is carried on throughout the night through private doors. It is stated that this practice of selling wine is secretly connived at by police officers who are bribed for the purpose by the keepers of these grog-shops. What do detectives do then? Government ought to pay attention to this matter.

SAMAYA,
May 27th, 1887.

10. The *Grambási*, of the 29th May, says that the Police Inspector of Uluberiah and the Police jemadar of Shampore have failed to detect the men who lately committed a theft at that place. The Deputy Magistrate of Uluberia should himself hold an enquiry on the spot.

GRAMBASI.
May 29th, 1887

11. The same paper says that numerous complaints have reached it against Baboo Harrish Chandra Biswas, Sub-Inspector of Police, Bagnan, and Baboo Baranoshi Ghosal, jemadar of the Mandalghat outpost near Shampore. Both the officers should be transferred.

GRAMBASI.

12. The *Dainik*, of the 1st June, asks the city police to put down the disturbances which are nightly created by some public women in College Street. It is desirable that there should be separate quarters for these women. They should not, at any rate, be allowed to reside in College Street where they can and do as a matter of fact decoy school-boys.

DAINIK
June 1st, 1887.

(b).—WORKING OF THE COURTS.

13. The *Cháruvartá*, of the 23rd May, says that the charges preferred by Suluk Jan Bibee against the Deputy Magistrate of Netrokona have been dismissed by the District Magistrate on the ground that they did not constitute a criminal offence. It is not known whether the charges were true or false; but the Magistrate should have investigated them when a woman had come publicly forward to prefer them in person against the chief officer of a sub-division. If the charges are proved to be false, the woman ought to be prosecuted for making false deposition. If the charges against the Sub-divisional Officer contained in the affidavit of Jagneswar constable cannot be established, he should also be adequately punished. It is hoped that the Magistrate will not punish either party without a regular trial.

CHARU VARTA,
May 23rd, 1887.

14. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 24th May, says that it is not clear why Baboo Brajendra Kumar Sil, of Bankura, is not entrusted with the powers ordinarily exercised by European Sessions

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 24th, 1887.

Judges. The people of the Bankura district have to go to Burdwan when they have to appeal against the decision of either a Sub-divisional Officer or a Magistrate. Now, as it is a long way off from Bankura to Burdwan, the people of Bishnupore, instead of making a troublesome journey and remaining away from home for a long time, often prefer not to appeal against the decisions of their Deputy Magistrate. This explains the unusually small number of appeals which are found to be preferred against the decisions of that officer. On the other hand, the number of appeals preferred against the decisions of the Deputy Magistrate of Cutwa, a place much nearer to Burdwan than Bishnupore, is comparatively very large. The poverty of the people of Bankura is another reason why they do not come to Burdwan where the muktears and pleaders often exact higher fees than what are taken by Bankura pleaders and muktears. The people of the Bankura district have thus become accustomed to accept as final the decisions of their Magistrate and Sub-divisional Officer. Now, this is a state of things which is calculated to increase local police oppression. Already the district of Bankura has much reason to complain of the highhandedness of its police. And police oppression in that district will be sure to increase if this difficulty about appeals continues to exist. Government should either entrust Baboo Brajendra Kumar with all the powers belonging to his office, or transfer him as an Additional Judge elsewhere and appoint an European Sessions Judge in his place in Bankura. But there is, after all, no reason why Baboo Brajendra Kumar, who is so popular, so trusted, and so highly praised all round, should not be allowed to exercise the full powers of his office as District Judge.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
May 25th, 1887.

15. The Maldah correspondent of the *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 25th May, says that Mr. Sharp, Magistrate of Maldah, holds his court from 5 o'clock in the

afternoon to 7 or 8 o'clock in the evening. The amlah of his court have to remain standing all that time.

DAINIK,
May 31st, 1887.

16. The *Dainik*, of the 31st May, says that, though duly paid beforehand, pleaders and barristers often fail to enter appearance in court when the cases in which they are engaged are taken up for trial. This causes great inconvenience to suitors and often causes waste of time by compelling courts to postpone cases. Barristers offend more heinously in this respect than pleaders. The latter often send substitutes when they cannot themselves appear and argue their cases; the former seldom do so. The High Court should take steps to put down this practice.

(b).—Jails.

SOM PRAKÁSH,
May 30th, 1887

17. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 30th May, says that as missionary gentlemen and ladies are known to feel strong sympathy with prisoners in jails, Government ought to allow them to inspect jails with a view to improve the character of their administration.

(d).—Education.

BHARATBASÍ,
May 21st, 1887.

18. The *Bháratbási*, of the 21st May, says that the mathematical paper in the last B.A. Examination of the Calcutta University was rather stiff, and one of the examiners, Mr. Boutflower, examined the answers carelessly. It is stated that he has been requested to re-examine the answers of some of the candidates. It would have been better if all the answers had been taken back from him and some other man had been appointed to examine them.

19. A correspondent of the *Cháruvartá*, of the 23rd May, complains of the want of a middle English school in the Jamalpore sub-division of the Mymensingh district. It is hoped that the authorities will encourage education in that Sub-division by raising the Dewangunge school to the status of a middle English school.

CHARUVARTA,
May 23rd, 1887.

20. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 24th May, disapproves of the proposal to open in the Campbell Medical School a mixed class for female medical students. The proposed class in which much facility will be given to persons of both sexes for coming into contact with each other will do more harm than good. Lady Dufferin's scheme of female medical education will only succeed if medical schools intended exclusively for female students are established.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 24th, 1887.

21. The *Sahachar*, of the 25th May, would like to be informed why, in the results of the last B. A. Examination, so many as 60 per cent. are found to have passed in the A course, and so few as 45 per cent. in the B course. How to account for this great difference of percentage?

SAHACHAR,
May 25th, 1887.

22. The Maldah correspondent of the *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 25th May, says that educational affairs are in a deplorable condition in Maldah. Mr. Pope, the Inspector, is playing with every educational institution from the zillah school down to the pathsala. He fixes the monthly course of studies for every class in a school, and in selecting text-books shows undue partiality for friends and acquaintances. He is a little too fond of issuing circulars and cancelling them almost as soon as they are issued. A short time before the Vernacular Scholarship Examination, he issued a circular to the effect that the candidates would be examined in zemindari, mahajani, and bazar accounts at the ensuing examination, but after some days he issued a fresh circular stating that the next examination would not touch that subject; and so the boys lost both time and money. Mr. Pope is a bundle of inconsistencies, and his uncertain and constantly changing orders are perplexing both to teachers and to scholars.

HINDU RANJIKI,
May 25th, 1887.

23. A correspondent of the *Garib* and *Mahavidya*, of the 25th May, says that the transfer of the Gabtoli circle school is under consideration. From the conversation which took place between Akroor Baboo, Sub-Inspector of Schools, Naraingunge, and the gentlemen of the locality, it appears that, if some arrangement for the pundit's board and lodging is not made by the people of that place, the school will be removed elsewhere. But has the Inspector of Schools issued any circular requiring the inhabitants of a village to make boarding arrangements for the teachers of their circle school and authorizing the removal of the school on their failing to do so? The Gabtoli circle pundit is trying his best to get the school removed to some other village. It is said that it is very painful to him to walk to the school during the hot season; but the old pundit did so most gladly during the past 16 years. If the school is transferred for the reasons stated above, people will say that the Education Department does not know how to respect justice. On the occasion of his last visit to the school, Akroor Baboo behaved very improperly by stretching his legs out on the desk in front of the boys, while the gentlemen of the village were sitting near him on benches.

GARIB & MAHAVIDYA,
May 25th, 1887.

24. The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 26th May, finds fault with the present system of education in this country. The writer recommends that there should be three kinds of education, the lowest being such elementary education as will

BHARAT MITRA,
May 26th, 1887.

SAMAYA,
May 27th, 1887.

enable the learners to earn their bread, the second being such education as will enable the learners to pursue any profession they please, and the third and highest consisting of instruction in Literature and Science.

25. The *Samaya*, of the 27th May, says that the construction of the Eden Hostel building should not be entrusted to the Government Public Works Department.

For if it is entrusted to that Department, half the estimated amount will find its way into the pockets of the officers of the Department, and the other half will be hardly sufficient for the purpose. The building should be constructed by a Bengali contractor under the supervision of Baboo Nilmoni Mittra, one of the members of the Hostel Fund Committee. If it is constructed by a Bengali, the cost will probably be only Rs. 70,000 or Rs. 80,000, instead of the estimated amount of a lakh and a half. The saving thus effected might be invested in Government securities, and the interest therefrom set apart for the purpose of putting the building into repair when necessary; and then no difficulty will arise from the refusal of the Public Works Department to repair the building on the ground of its not having been constructed by itself. If it entrusts the work to the Public Works Department the Hostel Committee will render itself far more responsible to the public than it has already done by making a lavish expenditure of the hostel public fund money.

SAMAYA.

26. A correspondent of the same paper observes that instances of examinations improperly conducted are cropping up everywhere, and still the authorities are as indifferent to the matter as ever. At the last minor examination in the district of Sibsagar, the candidates who expected questions from *Chintatarangini* and *Jnanankur*, the Assamese books fixed for that examination, were astonished to find themselves called upon to answer papers on *Bharatkahini* and *Pushpamala*, books which they had never read. The Inspector of schools was immediately telegraphed on the subject, but to no purpose. As nothing could be done at the time to rectify the mistake, the candidates had to answer the questions set to them as best they could. But is no body responsible for this? It is to be hoped that Mr. Wilson, Inspector of Schools, Assam, will see that justice is done to the poor students.

PARIDARSHAK,
May 27th, 1887.

The *Samaya* newspaper and Baboo Radahik Prasunno Mookerjee.

27. The *Prajābandhu*, of the 27th May, characterises as idle the strictures of the *Samaya* newspaper on Baboo Radhika Prasunno Mookerjee in regard to the issuing of invitations on cards of a superior quality.

SANJIVANI,
May 28th, 1887.

University education in this country.

28. The *Sanjivani*, of the 28th May, says that from 1854, the year in which Sir Charles Wood sent his celebrated education deputation to this country, educational institutions in India have shown a decided tendency to expand. The result, so far as primary education is concerned, has not been unsatisfactory. But the condition of high education is far from being satisfactory. Those who take the B.A. degree are allowed only one year's time to prepare themselves for the M.A. examination. But considering the number and difficulty of the books which have to be read for the M.A. examination, one year is too short a time for making a sound and systematic study. The candidates for the M.A. degree are therefore compelled to have recourse to cram. M. Bain's treatise on Mental and Moral Science is one of the text-books for the A course in the B.A. Examination. But instead of reading that book, the candidates for the B.A. degree simply get by heart the notes which are given by Professors in Colleges, and one student has been known to pass in Philosophy by simply reading Mr. Gough's notes on the subject, without even so much as touching Mr. Bain's book. Something of this kind is done in almost every

subject, and it is certain that if students did not get such short notes to get by heart as they receive from their Professors, the number of passed candidates in the degree examinations would not be more than one-fourth of what they are at present. This system of passing examinations by cram is materially affecting the character of high education. As knowledge is considered in this country to be only a means for acquiring money, and as degrees furnish the students with that means, everybody is anxious only to obtain degrees no matter how. Thus, University graduates in this country are not animated by a real love for knowledge, and so when their University career closes, they almost cease to study. In order to remedy these defects in the present system of University education, some people propose that the number of subjects in the different examinations should be reduced, the time for studying for each examination should be extended and the examinations should be of a minuter and more searching character. Distinguished graduates should be encouraged by being given good appointments in the Government service, and those graduates who desire to lead a literary life should receive pecuniary grants or stipends from Government. It is doubtful whether the adoption of these measures will be attended with the desired result. But it is not improbable that these changes may have the effect of creating in young Indians a sincere and ardent love for study. Indian professors, on the other hand, should give up their practice of delivering lectures in the form of notes and impart knowledge to their pupils in a sounder and more substantial style.

29. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 29th May, complains that the list of text-books for the Eastern Bengal Circle has not yet been officially published, and that the delay in its publication is causing serious inconvenience to school-boys. Some very bad books were included in this year's draft list. The most objectionable among them has been rejected, and more rejections are possible; but some bad books will still remain. There should, however, be no more delay in publishing the list. The officers entrusted with the preparation of the list should not take in bad books in consideration of large commissions or at the solicitation of friends. A book with a disgraceful history has been for many years a text-book in the Eastern Bengal Circle. Theft is regarded as a crime all over the world; and it is horrid to think how a book consisting of plagiarised matter has been able to enjoy the favour of the educational authorities of Eastern Bengal for so a long time.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 29th, 1887.

30. The *Grámbási*, of the 29th May, is glad to hear a proposal regarding the amalgamation of the schools at Rajibpore, Amardaha, and Nowdar. An amalgamation of this kind will be for the public good.

GRAMVASI,
May 29th, 1887.

31. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 30th May, is sorry to find Baboo Sarada Ranjan Roy, Professor of Mathematics in the Dacca College, transferred to the Cuttack College. It is impossible to make out why good professors are being latterly sent away from the Dacca College. The College is losing efficiency on account of these transfers.

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 30th, 1887.

32. The *Navavibhákar Sádharaní*, of the 30th May, says that, even in countries where men and women mix freely with each other, the latter have been unable to acquire any great proficiency in medical science. There are not many female doctors in England, and even America has not a single really learned and skilful female physician? It must be easy to infer from this that an attempt to create a class of female doctors in a country where female emancipation is unknown cannot be very successful. Women may, and have, in some few cases, become the equals of men in other departments of knowledge, but it does not appear probable that they

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
May 30th, 1887.

will ever equal men in medical science. Women may achieve great success in literature and the fine arts, but it is doubtful whether their intellect is sufficiently strong and capacious to enable them to master the difficult science of medicine. The cultivation of music best suits the intellect of women. There is also nothing in pure literature to prevent them from acquiring great eminence in it. Madame De Stael, George Eliot and Mrs. Browning are fully the compeers of the best male literateurs of their times. In many sciences, too, some women have acquired distinction; but no woman is known to have distinguished herself in medical science either in ancient or in modern times. Medicine is a laborious study and women do not seem made for *such* labour as it demands. Medicine is not badly taught in the Calcutta Medical College; but it is doubtful whether there are good arrangements for teaching it in the Campbell Medical School. Much medicine is not taught in that school. Bengali medical books are not sufficient to furnish one with a good knowledge of medical science. Even the male students of the Campbell Medical School do not learn much. It should therefore be easy to imagine how much knowledge of medicine women will carry away with them from that school. If women are taught medicine they should be taught in the Medical College. But wherever they may be taught, they will not learn medicine well. The creation of a class of female quacks will be very injurious to society. Where, again, is the necessity for female doctors? Women have not been dying hopelessly for want of female doctors. In most countries the female population exceeds the male population, and the female population is daily increasing. This would not have been the case if women had died largely for want of good medical treatment. It is true that the feeling of shame and modesty peculiar to the sex often prevents women from allowing male doctors to examine them in certain diseases; but such examination may well be, and is, as a matter of fact, made through the agency of midwives. There will be nothing to fear if there be only one or two female doctors. But the creation of a large body of female quacks will be extremely injurious to society.

(e).—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

PARIDARSHAK,
May 21st, 1887.

33. The *Paridarshak*, of the 21st May, says that the condition of the Sylhet Municipality is daily getting worse on account of the complete indifference of Mr.

The Sylhet Municipality.

Warde, Chief Commissioner of Assam, to its interests. The Municipal Commissioners have been advised to raise money by enhancing the municipal rates, and it has been proposed to convert the existing poll-tax into a house-tax. But the condition of the inhabitants of the town of Sylhet is such that it is impossible to impose a house-tax upon them. The condition of the dwellers of old pucca houses is so bad that they cannot afford to repair their ancestral houses. The imposition of a house-tax will prove advantageous to the rich and disadvantageous to the poor. Pleaders, mukhtars, and Government officers drawing big salaries, who now pay a poll-tax of Rs. 15 a year, live in houses, the annual assessable value of which will not exceed Rs. 100. If the poll-tax is given up for a house-tax, these men will therefore pay only Rs. 7-8 a year. The contemplated house-tax will yield no additional income to the municipality, and will only become a source of grievance to the poor. The length of the municipal roads is 30 miles, and there is only Rs. 3,000 in the funds of the municipality for repairing them. But this amount will be quite insufficient for the purpose of repairing the bridges on those roads, and the roads will therefore remain unrepaired. Government ought to assist the Sylhet Municipality with funds, for it is sadly in want of money. It appears that the Chief Commissioner is greatly displeased with

the municipality, and has turned a deaf ear to the prayers of the people. The poll-tax, on the other hand, has attained its utmost limit, and it is impossible to raise money by any other means. The Commissioners have therefore no other course open to them than to resign in a body and to cast all responsibility off their shoulders. There are many reasons why the present Municipal Overseer ought to be removed from his post. He has a disease which disables him to perform his duties, and he is totally unfit for active service; he is, moreover, involved in debt. It is not advisable to entrust a man so involved in debt with responsible duties like the disbursement of large sums of public money.

34. The *Bhāratbāsi*, of the 21st May, is glad to see Baboo Ramani Mohan Chatterjee appointed as license officer of the Calcutta Municipality. Ramani Baboo is a clever man, and the appointment of men like him will clear the Calcutta Municipality of the stigma which now attaches to its name.

BANGABASI,
May 21st, 1887.

35. A correspondent of the *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 25th May, says that the Maldah Municipality is not now managing its affairs in a satisfactory manner.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
May 25th, 1887.

The officers of the municipality are lazy and unfit for their work. The Commissioners are not working steadily, and the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman take little interest in the affairs of the municipality. The Commissioners are requested to work with more care.

36. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 27th May, takes exception to the action of the Calcutta Municipal Commissioners in removing the picture of the late Dr. Alexander Duff from its original place in the Town Hall in order to make room for the picture of Sir Rivers Thompson. The late Dr. Duff was highly respected by the people of Bengal, and the Commissioners have done a very wrong thing by removing his picture to a less conspicuous part of the hall. They have, indeed, by doing this, insulted the citizens of Calcutta.

ARYA DARPAN,
May 27th, 1887.

37. A correspondent of the *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 1st June, asks the Municipality of Maldah to put a stop to the practice of bathing cattle in the bathing ghât at English Bazar, and to prevent washermen from washing clothes near the same ghât. The municipal authorities should also remove the ferry at the bathing ghât to some other place.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
June 1st, 1887.

(g).—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

38. The *Grāmbāsi*, of the 29th May, complains that all the roads of Shampore, a village in the Uluberia sub-division, are out of repair. The condition of these roads is so wretched that they require to be taken up for repairs before all other roads in the same sub-division.

GRAMVASI,
May 29th, 1887.

39. The same paper says that passengers by the steamers plying between Calcutta and Uluberia feel the want of a jetty at the lastmentioned place. The Government jetty has been suddenly removed on account of differences with Messrs. Hoare, Miller and Company regarding the terms on which the jetty should be kept there. The Public Works Department has done great injustice to the local public by not allowing the Government jetty to remain where it was until a new jetty had been constructed by Messrs. Hoare, Miller and Company. It is hoped that Messrs. Hoare, Miller and Company will lose no time in constructing a new jetty for the convenience of their passengers.

GRAMVASI.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 30th, 1887.

40. The *Som Prakash*, of the 30th May, complains of the oppression committed on their subordinates by the officers of the Eastern Bengal Railway. The poor clerks of the Telegraph Department suffer most from this oppression. Although they work hard day and night, they are most severely punished for very trifling faults. There is hardly a man in that department whose salary is safe against deductions on the score of fines. The fines are set down to the credit of a fund. The doctor at the Sealdah station is another source of grievance. He seldom treats the poor clerks in sickness, and does not give them sick certificates even in very clear cases. The Railway authorities seem not to be aware of the existence of these grievances. It is also rumoured that the services of a Eurasian officer, who has obtained pension, have not yet been dispensed with. Sir Steuart Bayley ought to institute an enquiry into the matter, and put an end to these irregularities and oppressions.

DAINIK,
May 31st, 1887.

41. A correspondent of the *Dainik*, of the 31st May, says that as gentlemen travelling in the tram cars of Calcutta are often put to great inconvenience on account of their being occasionally compelled to sit side by side with low caste women, the Tramway Company should provide, at one each end of each car, a separate row of seats for women railed off from the remaining seats.

(h).—GENERAL.

BHARATBASI,
May 21st, 1887.

42. The *Bharatbasi*, of the 21st May, refers to the opinion expressed by Sir Lepel Griffin in his paper in the *Asiatic Quarterly Review*, that natives ought to be appointed only in the judicial service, and that Europeans alone should be employed to perform executive functions in order that British prestige may be maintained intact, and observes that only a few natives have up to the present time been employed in executive work. But the few who have been so employed have shown great ability in the discharge of their duties, and Government has praised them for the creditable manner in which they have acquitted themselves. So, as natives have proved themselves fit for administrative work, it will not be just to exclude them from the executive service for the crime of colour, and in the name of British prestige. Every European civilian cannot perform administrative work with credit and ability; witness Messrs. Curry, Newberry, Taylor, Lewis, Beames and other European Civilians who have brought disgrace upon British rule in India. But it does not follow from this that European civilians are unfit for executive work. On examining the proceedings of Magistrates and Commissioners in the mofussil, it is found that their endeavour to maintain British prestige in India by highhanded means has resulted in giving rise to a feeling of disrespect for the British Government among the people. No Native Magistrate could ever have committed such oppressions as those which made the Maharani of Tikari die an untimely death and the dowager Maharani of Burdwan and the Rani of Puri to suffer unspeakable sufferings. Sir Lepel Griffin has assigned no specific reason for his statement that natives should not be appointed to responsible posts. It is certain that if the administration of the country is entrusted to natives, the prestige of British Government will increase instead of diminishing.

BHARATBASI.

43. The same paper observes that it is a matter of shame that such grave charges as have been preferred against Mr. Beames by the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* should be brought against a civilian occupying such an eminent position in the Civil Service, and that no public enquiry should be made into their truth. People will lose all confidence in the Government if it remains

Mr. Beames.

indifferent in this matter. It is hoped that a public enquiry will soon commence, and that Mr. Beames will prosecute the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* for bringing false charges against him.

BHARATBASI,
May 21st, 1887.

Mr. K. G. Gupta's appointment and the *Englishman* newspaper.

44. The same paper, referring to the *Englishman's* statement that in appointing Mr. K. G. Gupta to the Board of Revenue Sir Steuart Bayley has only done what should have been done, and nothing more, says that if Governors at all times did what they should do, there could be no ground of complaint. The cause of complaint is that Governors do not do what they should do. People want nothing more than justice. There can be no doubt that the people of Bengal will enjoy happiness under the administration of Sir Steuart Bayley if he goes on performing such good acts as those with which he has inaugurated his rule.

Mr. K. G. Gupta's appointment in the Board of Revenue.

45. The *Garib* and *Mahavidya*, of the 25th May, endorses the opinion of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. That Mr. K. G. Gupta's appointment in the Board of Revenue is a shrewd political move made with the view of keeping out native civilians from the charge of districts.

GARIB MAHAVIDYA,
May 25th, 1887.

Administration of Criminal Justice.

46. The *Sahachar*, of the 25th May, referring to the administration of criminal justice in this country, says that its defects constitute a very strong and valid reason for increasing the age limit for the Civil Service Examination. The beardless English youths who are at present entrusted with the administration of criminal justice are most of them, inferior in their knowledge of criminal law, even to the mukhtars who practise in their courts. Their knowledge of the vernacular languages of the country, in which some of them profess to be highly proficient, is hardly worth the name. As the people have learnt to set greater value upon personal liberty than they could set upon it before, the system of criminal administration, which does not enable them to secure it in full measure, is naturally becoming more and more obsolete. The laws which the Government has framed for this purpose are good, but those who are entrusted with their administration are unable to apply them in the manner which has been rendered necessary by the new requirements of the age. There are Joint-Magistrates who will discharge murderers and punish small offenders with exemplary severity. Many again are for sending to jail all accused persons without distinction; others again would let off all offenders. Between these idiosyncrasies of individual Magistrates the criminal administration of justice suffers grievously and the violation of the criminal law is consequently on the increase. That the incompetency of Civilian Magistrates is the cause of this increase of crime cannot be questioned. It is necessary therefore, in the interests of justice, that Government should, so long as its powers continue to be exercised by civilians, set its face against the employment of boy civilians in important executive offices involving the administration of the criminal law. The evil results of the present system of criminal administration have made themselves felt even in the vicinity of Calcutta. People fear to make their complaints known to the authorities.

SAHACHAR,
May 25th, 1887.

Amalgamation of the offices of Health Officer and Superintendent of Jails in Bengal.

47. The same paper says that in Madras the offices of Provincial Health Officer and Superintendent of Jails have been amalgamated, and the two assistantships attached to those offices have also been merged into one at a great saving to Government. Some such arrangement is practicable in Bengal also, and should be adopted at once.

SAHACHAR.

Mr. Beames's explanation and the *Pioneer* newspaper.

48. The *Surabhi* and *Pataká*, of the 26th May, questions the correctness of the *Pioneer's* statement that Mr. Beames's explanation has given satisfaction to the Government of India. For, if such had been

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 26th, 1887.

the case, there would have been no objection to the explanation being placed before the public with a view of enabling them to judge of its character.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 26th, 1887.

49. The same paper says that, according to the European and Eurasian witnesses before the Public Service Commission, Indians are unfit to be entrusted with offices involving grave responsibility, because they are wanting in courage, firmness of character, and presence of mind—qualities which are of the utmost need in emergencies. But instances might be quoted without limit to show that such a characterisation of natives is utterly erroneous. Here is one instance in point. Once on a time in a Government office, headed by a European officer, considerable discrepancies in accounts were discovered, and a commission was appointed to enquire into the matter. The European head of the office felt confounded and alarmed and went away on leave. But his assistant, a Bengali, took upon himself the task of examining the accounts. After working long and incessantly and examining accounts, ten or fifteen years old, he succeeded in showing that, instead of a deficit, there was a surplus of several thousand rupees. His European superior was all right now, and he felt and looked like himself again. The Commission of course sent a report to Government lauding the European officer to the skies, and without mentioning one word about his poor Bengali assistant. It will be interesting to know if that European officer is among those who are traducing the native character before the Commission. Similarly, the conduct of the Bengali Inspector of the Tarakesvar police who displayed such coolness and tact on the occasion of the quarrel which recently broke out at that place between the Sanyasis and the constables of the police and of the Sikh soldiers, who by their patient courage saved the European portion of the English army from destruction in the Soudan war, might be instanced as furnishing good refutations of the charges which are being preferred against the native character before the Public Service Commission. When the troopship *Tasmania* was wrecked, native khalasies sacrificed their lives in the discharge of their duty; and yet the *Pioneer* does not cease to accuse natives of want of firmness in emergencies. The fact is that the native is considered wanting in firmness of character, courage, and such like qualities, not because he is really wanting in those qualities, but because he cannot act so rashly, cruelly, and unscrupulously as a European can. He is always influenced by fears and scruples about religion and the next world, and he cannot consequently always lay his hand on the first means that offers itself unto an end. Again, natives are generally punished for doing precisely those things for which Europeans are praised and rewarded. It is no wonder therefore that Europeans and Eurasians should describe the native character as they are doing before the Public Service Commission.

PURVA BANGABASI,
May 7th 1887.

50. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 27th May, says that Government ought to dismiss Baboo Gouri Sunker Visvas, Deputy Magistrate of Naogaon, if he is found guilty of the charges which have been preferred against him. The Baboo is probably one of those Deputy Magistrates who got their appointments by flattering high officials during the administration of Sir Ashley Eden.

SAMAYA,
May 27th, 1887.

51. The *Samaya*, of the 27th May, does not think that the proposal made by the Salaries Commission regarding the establishment of an office of inspection to watch over the amla and the substitution of English for Bengali as the language of court papers in the mofussil as a means of reducing their number will do any practical good. In the first place, the creation of an office of inspection will hardly check bribery among the amla, which can be put down

only by increasing their pay and thus placing them above temptation. The second proposal is hardly practicable in a court where most of the business of the courts has reference to people ignorant of English. The proposal, if carried into effect, will only give English-knowing amla great facilities for remunerating themselves in an illegal manner. Besides, the necessity for maintaining a translation department cannot be done away with, seeing that the High Court often passes orders and issues circulars which must always be translated in order that they may be made known to ryots and other ignorant people.

52. The *Dhumketu*, of the 27th May, in an article entitled "Why do we starve?" delivers itself somewhat as follows:—"You do not see that your innu-

Indians under English rule.

merable subjects are dying of starvation—that they are threatened with extinction. Nothing could cause greater regret than such blindness on the part of rulers. Much mischief may come out of this. Be that as it may, you are our king, and it is *your* fault if we starve. *You* calculate profit and loss too minutely. Your insatiable thirst for gold has deprived you of your senses, and you have forgotten the duties which rulers should perform. To wring money from the people is the be-all and the end-all of your policy. Patriotic editors of newspapers have often exposed your rapacious policy. We have been ruined by and are writhing under the burden of your taxes. Like malarious fever your taxation is sucking our life-blood. India is being placed in a hopeless situation by your tremendous exports. The vortex of exchange is tearing out the very entrails of the people. We have been blinded by the dust-storm of loans. The times are really critical for us. The cultivator is starving, and starve he must. As soon as he gathers in his harvest, he is called upon to pay all current rent and all arrear rent. He must also pay the costs of justice. The amount of the arrears with the interest thereon, decreed against him, takes away from him half his produce. A portion goes towards the payment of various cesses, and the money-lender and the duty on salt also exact their quotas. What still remains goes to the outstill. He is now a beggar. By encouraging the export of wheat for your own convenience, you are curtailing the cultivation of paddy. From the Brahmin down to the washerman everybody is quitting his own profession, and is going about in quest of service. We derive no real profit from trade. We give rice and get wine in return; we part with the necessaries of life in exchange for articles of luxury. Anyhow it is you that take away everything, and we that part with everything. You have no qualities by which you can draw people nearer to you in love and affection. There was a time when you loved and helped your poor native servants. But times are altered, and you now look upon natives as cats and dogs. Instead of the ruler and the ruled being daily drawn closer to each other, the distance between them is daily increasing. This state of things has shocked us, and we have lost all hope of being happy at any future time. It is a pity you cannot win the hearts of such a good and simple people as we Indians are. If you still doubt their goodness and simplicity, make the experiment of treating them kindly and conciliatingly for some time, and it is certain you will be rewarded with results far exceeding your expectations. Fie to your kingly name and fie to your kingly wisdom if you have nothing in you to secure the love of your subjects! He alone deserves to be called a king who enjoys in the fullest measure the love and confidence of his subjects.

DHUMKETU,
May 27th, 1887.

53. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 28th May, contradicting the statement made by another correspondent of the same paper, regarding the proposal to remove the Kumarkhali post-office from its present site, remarks that

The Kumarkhali post-office.

SANJIVANI,
May 28th, 1887.

it is not true that the removal of the post-office will be attended with public inconvenience. The Inspector of the local post-offices, who came to Kumarkhali in order to ascertain the facts of the case, has satisfied himself on this head, and as the removal has already been made, it is found to be attended with greater public convenience.

SANJIVANI,
May 28th, 1887.

54. A correspondent of the same paper says that, notwithstanding repeated protestations made to it against the oppressions of tea-planters in Assam, Govern-

A peon beaten by a tea-planter.

ment is as indifferent to the matter as ever. On 4th May last a peon named Baikuntha went to the bungalow of Mr. Campbell, a planter in Debrugar, for the purpose of serving a summons upon him. The planter had the peon called into his bungalow, took the summons from him, reflected a little on its contents, and then severely thrashed him. Not being satisfied with this, he has brought a charge of trespass against the peon. Mr. Campbell has stated in court that he beat the peon because he had the audacity to go too near the quarters of his *memsahab*. The plea is certainly ludicrous; for it is well-known that the so-called *memsahab* is only Mr. Campbell's Assamese mistress.

GRAMVANI,
May 29th, 1887.

55. The *Grāmbari*, of the 29th May, says that Mr. Gorst's reply to

Outstills in the Uluberia sub-division.

Mr. Smith on the subject of outstills in Uluberia is not satisfactory. It appears that Mr. Gorst is unacquainted with the manner in which the work of Indian administration is carried on. The Excise Commission recommended the establishment of a sudder distillery in the Uluberia sub-division, and it was decided not to establish outstills there. Why was not that recommendation accepted? The Government is weak and so it has failed to keep its promise. The reply of the Government of Bengal to the memorial of the inhabitants of the Uluberia sub-division is painfully disappointing. A reply of this kind was not expected from Sir Steuart Bayley. The reply is, indeed, unworthy of Sir Steuart Bayley. It has been said that the outstill system has been introduced in the interests of good Government, which means discouraging intemperance and protecting the revenue. But facts do not bear this out. The outstill system has increased revenue, but it has in no degree discouraged intemperance. People who did not drink before are now drinking to excess, and they can do so, because wine is cheap. Is this discouraging intemperance? Is this good government? It may be boldly affirmed that the outstill system has not been introduced in the interests of good Government, but only with a view of increasing the revenue. Sir Steuart has been duped by the Board of Revenue into rejecting the Uluberia memorial.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 30th, 1887.

56. The *Som Prakāsh*, of the 30th May, says that the evidence given

Mr. Westland before the Public Service Commission.

by Mr. Westland before the Sub-Committee of the Public Service Commission is the outcome of his deep-rooted hatred of natives. Has Mr. Westland forgotten the late Baboo Syama Charan Dey Bahadur? Has the Civilian body ever furnished a man who could, in his knowledge of accounts, even compare with the late Baboo? There is in fact hardly any people on the face of the earth who make better accountants than Bengalis.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
May 30th 1887.

57. The *Navavibhakar Sādhārani*, of the 30th May, says that, what-

Mr. Westland and the appointment of natives in the Account Department.

ever may be said about the fitness of natives for other work, it is ridiculous to deny their fitness for work relating to accounts. Even ignorant native (*mudis*) are readier accountants than English book-keepers. Mr. Westland has stated to the Public Service Commission that natives cannot be appointed to many posts in the Account Department. But can Mr. Westland deny that petty native clerks are better accountants than Civilians drawing large salaries? Mr. Westland himself fully appreciated

the talent for accounts possessed by a native clerk under him who once pointed out a mistake in some accounts which he had himself prepared. Mr. Westland indeed loved that clerk so much that he closed his office for one day in his honour when he died. Mr. Westland has not therefore done well by saying that natives are not fit for many posts in the Account Department after witnessing with his own eyes their skill in account work.

58. The *Dainik*, of the 31st May, referring to Sir John Gorst's statement in reply to the question put to him in Parliament by Mr. Smith, denying all knowledge of the memorial addressed to Govern-

DAINIK,
May 31st 1887.

Sir John Gorst and the outstill question.

ment by the people of the Uluberia sub-division, protesting against the establishment of outstills in that sub-division, says that it fails to see why the lords of the India Office should devour so much of India's money when they do not apparently take the trouble of informing themselves about such things as these.

59. Referring to the case of Lukshmi Prasad of Mandala in Jubbulpore, the same paper says that the Governor-General, though admitting that great oppression was practised on the man in the name of justice, has contented himself with simply expressing his regret. But ought not His Excellency to have gone further and visited the offending officers with some punishment? Who shall say that indulgence of this kind on the part of the higher ruling authorities towards the lower has not the effect of making the Civilian demons more and more ferocious.

DAINIK.

The case of Lukshmi Prasad of Mandala in Jubbulpore.

60. Referring to the agitation set on foot by the Silchar tea-planters against the proposed repeal of Act XIII of 1859, the same paper says that the planters urge in favour of the Act in question that it has worked well, that its working does not involve them in heavy expenses, that it does not give to planters such facilities as are given to them by Act I of 1882 to oppress coolies, and that it prevents collision between planters and coolies. Now it is easy to see why the Act XIII of 1859 has worked well and prevented any collision between the planter and the cooly. When one of two parties is completely at the mercy of the others, no collision is possible between them; and under the operation of Act XIII of 1859, the cooly is completely at the mercy of the planter. The cooly has nothing for it but to suffer quietly and with patience. The planters also say that the repeal of Act XIII will ruin them as a class; but that this cannot be is shown by the fact that the tea-industry flourishes most satisfactorily even in places where Act XIII does not operate. If Act I of 1882 contains, as the planters themselves say, provisions calculated to favour cooly oppression, why do they not simply ask Government to repeal those provisions?

DAINIK.

61. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the want of a post office at Bagagram in the district of Pubna. The authorities have been more than once written to on this subject, but in vain.

DAINIK.

A post office at Bagagram.

62. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 1st June, says that native officers in the Postal Department are not justly dealt with and are often ignored, overlooked, or passed over in favour of European officers, and asks Government to institute an enquiry into the matter and take the needful remedial measures.

HINDU RANJIK,
June 1st, 1887.

Natives in the Postal Department.

63. The *Dainik*, of the 2nd June, thus answers the charges which the Silchar Planters' Association has brought against Government:—

DAINIK,
June 2nd, 1887.

Government and the tea-planters of Silchar.

1st charge.—Owing to the restrictions imposed by Government on the importation of coolies, tea-industry is declining.

Answer.—The charge is absolutely unfounded. Tea manufacture and the number of tea-gardens are increasing, and tea worth three crores of rupees is being yearly exported from Assam alone. The greed of the planter is really insatiable.

2nd charge.—Instead of encouraging the importation of coolies into tea gardens, Government contents itself with simply looking about the welfare of a few coolies in plantations.

Answer.—Government is doing more than what is necessary to encourage cooly immigration into Assam. This is shown by the fact that the population of Assam is increasing faster than that of any other Indian province. In endeavouring to protect the cooly against the oppressions of the planter, Government is simply performing the duty belonging to all Governments, of protecting the weak against the strong.

Third charge.—Government's interference with the free importation of coolies by the planters is inconsistent with its free trade policy.

Answer.—This means nothing, more or less, than that the planters look upon coolies in the light of merchandise. Let the Government be on its guard. It ought not to entrust men who hold such doctrines with plenary powers over coolies.

Fourth charge.—As schools and Courts of Justice are multiplying everywhere, the chances of cooly oppression are fast diminishing. Government should therefore withdraw from all interference in the matter.

Answer.—The time has not yet come when Government can leave the matter alone, and laws are still required to protect the weak against the strong.

Fifth charge.—Government concerns itself more about the welfare of coolies than about the welfare of its other poor subjects.

Answer.—The charge is not true. Government is doing its best to improve the condition of its poor subjects throughout the Empire.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
May 27th, 1887.

64. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 27th May, does not see any reason why the Maharajah of Cooch Behar should reside in England for a year. The Maharajah has received as much English education as he requires, and it is time for him to devote himself heart and soul to the administration of his State.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 30th, 1887

65. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 30th May, is glad that the Magistrate of Tipperah has gone to inspect the condition of the famine-stricken people of Brahmanbariah. But the people there are so timid that it is feared that they will not be able to make a free and full statement of their case to the Magistrate. It will therefore be difficult to ascertain their real condition without making a careful private enquiry. Half the people of Lochurpore and Nachirpore are starving. Many live on one meal a day. Poor widows are suffering more than other people. Government could relieve them by giving them paddy to husk. The people must not expect to get full meals until the next harvest.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BHARATBASÍ,
May 21st, 1887.

66. The *Bhāratbāsi*, of the 21st May, says that Sir Steuart Bayley's Secretaries to the Government of Bengal resolution not to spend the summer in Darjeeling has so much disgusted some of his Secretaries that they have determined to go to England and have applied for leave with that view. It will be, however, advisable for them

not to live in this cursed land any longer. It will be better if they leave this country for good, for that will be advantageous both to them and to this unhappy country.

67. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 23rd May, says that much money will be spent in the visits of the native princes to England on the occasion of the celebration of the Jubilee there. The people of India would have greatly benefited if all this money had been spent for their good.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
May 23rd 1887.

Expenditure of money in the visits of native princes to England.

68. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 23rd May, says that when political meetings are attended by such elderly zemindars as Rajah Surja Kant Acharyay, they cannot be characterised or scouted as child's play. The young and the old, the wise and the rich, are all joining the political meetings which are now being held in different parts of Bengal. They that overlook these meetings do not see the best signs of the times. It is to be hoped that no real well-wisher of the country will pooh-pooh this political agitation as a school-boy freak.

CHARU VAKTA,
May 23rd, 1887.

Political agitations in Bengal.

69. The *Garib* and *Mahavidyá*, of the 25th May, referring to the mass meetings now being held in different parts of Bengal, remarks that they are not genuine ryots' meetings. The ryots in those meetings are mere puppets in the hands of political agitators, who remain behind the scene and make them dance according to their will. The ryots know nothing about Legislative Councils and elective institutions, and so on, and yet it is precisely these things which they appear to be discussing and talking about in these meetings. Surely Englishmen are not so obtuse as to be unable to gauge the political capacity of Indian ryots; and they will not therefore accept these demands about representative Councils and things like that as genuine popular demands. Government would probably have felt inclined to take the transactions of these meetings into serious consideration if the political agitators who are getting them up had made the ryots discuss grievances which they really feel, such as scarcity of good drinking water, the salt tax, &c.

GARIB & MAHAVIDYA
May 25th, 1887.

Political agitation in Bengal.

70. The *Sahachar*, of the 25th May, asks the Bengal Government whether it will follow the example of the Madras Government in the matter of closing public offices on the 20th June in commemoration of the Jubilee in England.

SAHACHAR,
May 25th, 1887.

The closing of public offices on the 20th June.

71. The *Surabhi* and *Patáká*, of the 26th May, says that it is most undesirable to compel a man and a woman to live as husband and wife when the feeling of mutual attachment is absolutely wanting between them. The law relating to the Restitution of Congugal Rights should therefore be abolished. And as the law in question is opposed to the letter and spirit of the Hindu sastras, it is to be hoped that no Hindu will object to its abolition.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 26th, 1887.

The Rukma Bai affair.

72. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 30th May, says that, in commemoration of the celebration of the Jubilee in England, representative Legislative Councils ought to be established in this country. The people have all along been anxious to obtain this boon, and the present is a most fitting opportunity for granting it to them. For it is written in Leviticus, 25-9 that "they should celebrate the fiftieth year with rejoicing and set people at liberty everywhere."

SOM PRAKASH,
May 30th, 1887.

The Jubilee celebration in England.

URIYA PAPERS.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
May, 5th 1887.

73. The *Samvād Bāhikā*, of the 5th May, reports that want of rain is very much felt in the villages of the Balasore district. In some villages people hardly find water to drink.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

74. The departure of Miss Ida Phillips, an American lady, who had distinguished herself in Balasore by establishing a large number of girls' schools, and by otherwise furthering the interests of female education in that district, is very lamented by this paper, as also by its contemporary of the *Sanskāraka*.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
May 7th, 1887.

75. The *Utkaldīpikā*, of the 7th May, regrets the use of bad Uriya in vernacular court records in Orissa, and suggests that if pleaders and the revenue agents employ men, who have had some school education, as their mohurirs, a great deal of improvement may be expected to be made in this direction.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

76. The same paper is informed by its Dhenkanal correspondent that the use of stamps and court-fees in that State has put its inhabitants to great inconvenience. The paper supports the views of its correspondent and goes on to make the following observations:—

"In several matters Gurjat is more backward and poor than the Mogulbundi districts. To take the prices of stamps and court-fees from them is, in a manner, to close the courts of justice against them. Besides, we doubt whether Government, which is acting simply as the representative of the minor Rajah, can at all make extra income by selling stamps and court-fees. It was one of the objects of the former Superintendents of Orissa Gurjats to relieve their subjects from extra taxes; but the present Superintendent by imposing new taxes in States under the Court of Wards sets an example to the Rajahs of neighbouring States, and thereby helps to increase the distress of the people."

UTKAL DIPIKA.

77. The same paper writes a long article on the Temple case pointing out that the Commissioner of the Orissa Division and the Government Pleader were to blame for bringing matters in connection therewith to the stage which they reached, and requesting His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to take such precautionary measures as will make a repetition of such highhanded proceedings on the part of local officers impossible.

NAVASAMBAD,
May 12th, 1887.

78. Referring to the provisions of the Inventions and Designs Bill, the *Navasamvād*, of the 12th May, remarks that the charge for securing patent seems to be excessively high, and that it should be reduced.

SANSKARAKA,
May, 12th 1887.

79. The correspondent of the *Sanskāraka*, of the 12th May, points out that the abolition of the study of Uriya in the Mandasa grant-in-aid school in the Madras Presidency has very much had a discouraging effect upon Uriyas in that Presidency. It is to be hoped that the authorities will attend to the complaints of the Uriya people on this head.

SANSKARAKA,

80. The same paper writes a long article on *Rukma Bai*, supporting the decision of the Government of India on Mr. Malabari's representations on the subject of "Infant marriage and enforced widowhood in India." It goes on as follows:—

"Rukma Bai's sentimental grievances have led a large number of reformers to espouse her cause, whose importance has been so much magnified as to secure a hearing for it in the columns of the London

Times and the *Privy Council* of *Her Imperial Majesty*. We admit some of the evils of *Infant marriage* as an organized system, but with the individual and personal case of *Rukma Bai* we have no sympathy. On the other hand, we censure the conduct of her guardians and counsellors, who, instead of making her submit to the decree of Providence in a truly Hindu spirit of resignation, have instigated her to have recourse to civil suits, which can never bring her relief. Nor can the Government of India enact any law in this connection because a wrongheaded Hindu girl refuses to be reconciled with her *husband*."

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 4th June 1887.

